

Table 4. Estimated Coefficients of Variation of Annual Sales, End-of-Year Inventories, Purchases, Gross Margins, and Gross Margin/Sales Ratios

[Estimates are shown as percents. Estimates are based on data from the 2002 Annual Wholesale Trade Survey and administrative records.]

NAICS CODE	Kind of Business	Sales	Inventories	Purchases	Gross margin	Gross margin/ sales ratios
	Merchant Wholesalers, total.....	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.4	0.8
421	Durable goods.....	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.0
4211	Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts and Supplies.....	3.3	2.4	3.7	2.3	1.9
4212	Furniture and Home Furnishings.....	4.1	6.1	4.0	5.6	2.4
4213	Lumber & Other Construction Materials.....	7.2	4.8	8.5	4.7	4.7
4214	Professional and Commercial Equipment and Supplies.....	4.6	6.9	5.1	4.7	3.3
42143	Computer and Computer Peripheral Equipment and Software.....	7.2	8.8	7.5	8.4	6.4
4215	Metals and Minerals, ex. Petroleum.....	4.0	5.5	4.5	5.9	4.5
4216	Electrical Goods.....	4.2	3.8	4.3	5.3	2.4
4217	Hardware, and Plumbing and Heating Equipment and Supplies.....	1.8	4.9	2.0	2.9	2.4
4218	Machinery, Equipment, and Supplies.....	3.2	3.8	3.6	3.2	2.2
4219	Miscellaneous Durable Goods.....	4.3	5.0	4.7	6.0	4.4
422	Nondurable goods.....	1.0	1.6	0.9	2.2	1.4
4221	Paper and Paper Products.....	2.4	3.0	2.7	3.0	2.5
4222	Drugs and Druggists' Sundries.....	3.0	3.1	2.8	6.2	4.8
4223	Apparel, Piece Goods, and Notions.....	4.4	3.9	4.6	4.9	2.7
4224	Groceries and Related Products.....	2.7	3.7	2.3	6.4	4.2
4225	Farm Product Raw Materials.....	4.3	6.7	4.3	7.9	7.0
4226	Chemicals and Allied Products.....	4.1	4.6	4.5	5.7	3.9
4227	Petroleum and Petroleum Products.....	4.3	4.5	4.1	7.5	4.1
4228	Beer, Wine, and Distilled Alcoholic Beverages.....	2.7	3.5	2.8	3.3	1.5
4229	Miscellaneous Nondurable Goods.....	5.1	6.4	5.4	4.9	3.4

Note: The introduction and appendixes give information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions.

Links to this information on the internet may be found at www.census.gov/svsd/www/whltable.html.

**Source: U S Census Bureau
Service Sector Statistics Division**